

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 6 remains in this application. Claims 1 through 5 have been cancelled. No claims have been withdrawn or added.

Paragraphs 1 through 4 of the Office Action

The specification has been objected to for the informalities noted in the Office Action.

Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 (second paragraph) as being indefinite.

Previously, claim 2 required that the display include the legend "POSTAL TIME". This requirements was objected to as being "relative", however, it is submitted that there is nothing relative about the words "POSTAL TIME", and the objection in the Office Action ignores that it is the legend or words "POSTAL TIME", and not any concept or meaning behind the terms, that is being required. Furthermore, it is submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize and understand the meaning of a legend as a printed word on a surface.

In any event, claim 2 has been cancelled, and the similar requirement cancelled from claim 6, and therefore it is submitted that the objection and rejection are moot.

Paragraphs 5 through 8 of the Office Action

Claims 1, and 3 through 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muller in view of Malone.

Claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muller in view of Malone, and further in view of Metts.

Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muller in view of Malone, and further in view of Metts.

Claim 1 requires in part "wherein said minutes are displayed serially in integers from 1 to 59 inclusive and said hundredths of an hour are displayed serially in integers from 1 to 99 inclusive".

It is therefore submitted that the cited patents, and especially the allegedly obvious combination of Muller, Malone, and Metts set forth in the rejection of the Office Action, would not lead one skilled in the art to the applicant's invention as required by claim 6. Specifically, the Malone patent leads one of ordinary skill in the art to a face with a few static numbers marked on the face, with minutes and decimal in hundredths marked on the face. It is submitted that the Malone disclosure could only lead one away from the requirements of claim 6, as it could only lead one away from the digital display of the Muller patent.

Withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claim 6 is therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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